

NEW COMMUNITY CLARION

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF BABYLAND - ST. ROSE OF LIMA & NEW COMMUNITY

VOL. 7 NO. 10

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

JANUARY, 1990

Harmony House Brings Christmas Joy As Brighter Future Unfolds For Families

A tall, stately Christmas tree burst into light for the first time at New Community Harmony House on Friday, December 22 bringing warmth to the hearts of those watching, for it symbolized the hope of a new beginning in life for the 102 families and those to follow who would come to live there for a time.

By Christmas day 16 families were

many House is the built-in support services to help the families return to the mainstream of a working world. Educational opportunities, child care, health services, employment counseling and a social services component will be available.

Relocation assistance, so vitally needed considering the dearth of affordable housing in the Newark area.

Gene Holler, president of Hartz Mountain, Inc., was present at the tree lighting as was Bruce Anderson, Vice President of Mutual Benefit Life, whose late chairman and chief executive officer, Robert Van Fossan was concerned about the homeless and a firm supporter of the Harmony House concept, paving the way for a lower-than-market interest loan from Mutual for the transitional residence. (See Clarion, December 1989) The opening of Harmony House was also attended by Essex County Executive Nicholas Amato and Newark Mayor Sharpe James.

The partnership at Harmony House includes as well The State of New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and the Department of Citizen Services.

Homeless families will be referred to the new transitional facility by the Essex County Division of Welfare.

The families will primarily come from emergency shelters, hotels and motels and stay for a short term until jobs and permanent housing allow them to regain their independence from the welfare system. The only true solution to the problem of the homeless is more permanent affordable housing, which must become a priority nationwide. Public/private partnerships such as these can certainly take us one step further toward a solution, but Government entering into that partnership will speed the process throughout the nation.

Until the lack of affordable housing is seriously addressed by all sectors people of limited income will be denied their dignity and a say in their own destiny.

New Community Harmony House in Newark is just one small step toward that goal.

Related story and photos on page 3



County Executive Nicholas Amato and Newark Mayor Sharpe James place Christmas ornaments on Harmony House tree.

enjoying a quiet safe place to cook and eat together and rest their heads as night arrived. For many, just sharing a meal at a table, each with his own chair was a luxury.

The tree was visible from every living room as the apartments face a center park area with playgrounds, providing the parents an opportunity to supervise their children. The mood was a happy one.

One of the main advantages of Har-

mony House is the built-in support services to help the families return to the mainstream of a working world. Educational opportunities, child care, health services, employment counseling and a social services component will be available.

Hartz Mountain Industries, Inc. constructed the \$4 million facility at cost, with Chairman Leonard Stern actually involved in the design of both building and program which followed. The Leonard Stern Foundation grant of \$200,000 got the project off the ground.

Deputy Drug Czar Visits New Community To View Community Based Efforts Against Drugs

New Community Corporation drew the attention of Reggie Walton, Associate Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy as he toured the complex and some of its network components on Friday, December 8th, to

view NCC's community-based efforts to fight the drug problem and short circuit its causes. Walton was impressed with the "holistic" approach which New Community takes.

Accompanying Mr. Walton were Monsignor William J. Linder and Essex County Prosecutor Herbert H. Tate, Jr. who invited the assistant drug czar to see Newark's strategy to combat the drug problem through law enforcement and community-based efforts such as ours.

Mr. Walton has visited cities in 27 states to view what has been successful and put such programs into use nationally. He reports back to drug

statewide level as a model to be followed, because it places attention on the person from cradle to senior age. One of the facts is that children are not long out of that cradle before encountering drugs in some way. A support system which gives them an alternative to the drug lifestyle must therefore begin early and sustain them through teenage years. This cannot be done without the involvement of family and community residents.

The work of New Community has also been viewed first hand by both Governor-elect James Florio, Governor Thomas Kean, and HUD

continued on page 3

Santa Left This For Me?



Whose present is this?



Father Wm. Linder and Deputy Drug Czar Reggie Walton pictured with children at Babyland III Nursery.



Jobtalk

by John Bins

Getting Started On A Job Search

If you've decided to leave the job you have and find one that you like better, do it while you're still working if that's possible. Sometimes there's no choice — you're already unemployed.

Anyone who says that they enjoy looking for work is probably lying. It's universally regarded as tough work. If a person is still working it is exhausting to do a hard day's work to be fair to the present employer, and still have time and energy left for the job hunt. But that's what needs to be done, because a job candidate who's working is more valued by employers — never mind that they always seem to want the new worker to start immediately. A person who is not working has plenty of reason to be disgruntled — lack of income, loss of face and a feeling of uselessness.

Discouragement and depression are common — everybody goes through it. The rejection alone can be devastating. Sometimes it helps to realize that for a particular job the employer will select from among five or ten or 20 people. Just on the average that may mean getting through 19 noses before you can expect the one you need. So when an employer says no, you're that much closer to the yes.

We are what we think, the saying goes, so keeping a positive attitude is important. Approach job hunting in a business-like way. Keep a calendar of your plans ahead and a log of where you've been and who you've seen. Always dress for an interview, even if you are only dropping off a resume or filling out an application. Make everyday job hunting day and get an early start. Being the early bird not only results in more job in-

terviews but it also results in a job seeker in a better frame of mind. Be an up-at-on person. Don't expect job hunting to be easy for you because it's not easy for anyone else.

And you must display a positive outlook in front of the employer regardless of how you feel. An interview is not the place to tell all your woes or how badly you need a job. It does not go down well with interviewers, no matter how sympathetic they may be. Leave your worries at home. Be an upbeat person. You will get a job on your merits.

To Be Continued

NEW COMMUNITY
EMPLOYMENT CENTER
Employers with job orders or...job
seekers wanting appointments...call
733-4930.

Good Employers Bring Out The Best In Workers

Alvin Clay stopped in the other day to extend a belated thank you for arranging his interview at Hartz Mountain Corporation last March.

In 1982, Alvin had been selected along with a number of Newark residents for a stone cutting apprentice program at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City and had included six months of fac-



Alvin Clay

tory work at Jersey Plastics. That experience together with his earnestness in finding a position with a worth while company undoubtedly

figured in his being hired by Ms. Janeth Philhower, plant personnel manager for Hartz Mountain Corporation, Harrison, New Jersey.

Nine months later, Alvin tells everyone how pleased he is with Hartz. He is a union member, receives raises, health insurance, vacation time with pay, allotted personal days and sick days with pay each year and more.

Alvin is proud of the work he does on the maintenance crew. He usually comes in an hour early and heads for building #1 because general maintenance there is his primary responsibility. He also has other areas assigned and is frequently called on for special projects. He loves the job and the people he works with. It is apparent that he admires Mr. Bob DeWitt, his supervisor, about whom he says, "He's very fair. When you're wrong, you're wrong. But when you're right, he's with you 100%."

Mr. DeWitt says that Alvin is an excellent worker. The comedian of the crew, Alvin doesn't need close supervision and can be depended on to get the job done. When he is sent on special assignments, compliments often come back from other departments to Mr. DeWitt.

"I'm here to work," says Alvin, and things seem to be working out for him — because he is a good worker and because Hartz is a good employer.

Pastoral On Racism Is Ten Years Old Bishop Francis Honored For Participation

The National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice honored Bishop Joseph A. Francis at its conference in Newark on November 4th for his work as key architect of *Brothers and Sisters to Us*. The U.S. Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Racism.

The conference, entitled *Creating An Inclusive Church*, focused on how far the church had come a decade after the pastoral was written and what could be done to act against



Most Rev. Joseph A. Francis Jr.

racism remaining today in a more subtle form.

The Sisters of St. Joseph, some of whom work at New Community also celebrated the anniversary with a group of 250 at their motherhouse in Philadelphia. Bishop Francis led the five hour event there.

It would seem there is a long way to go before interracial unity is truly a part of the church, since Bishop Francis himself calls the pastoral "the best kept secret in the Church."

NC Gardens Has Party

Gardens Christmas Celebration and dinner was a great success. Everyone brought their favorite dish to share with their neighbor. We had enough food for all to enjoy and everyone was so generous. We danced to the music of our favorite D.J. Doctor Jay.

Much to our surprise we were presented with a plaque that read as follows:

"To

My favorite family

at 265

Thank you for letting

me bring you the

joy of music

1984-1989

From your D.J. Doctor Jay"

We are all grateful that Doctor Jay remembered us. It was a real nice Christmas gift.

We wish all a very Happy New Year and stay in good health.

Mary Bell



Contributions To

New Community Corporation

If you would like to make a memorial gift or donation to New Community it would be most welcome.

People who would like to give to New Community but don't wish to give up the earning power at the present time can assign a contribution now, but defer payment until sometime in the future.

If you would like more information, please contact the Development Office at (201) 623-2800 ext. 206.

THE NEW COMMUNITY CLARION

The N.C. Clarion is published the first week of each month as a community service. The Editor reserves the right to withhold articles and photographs once they are submitted. Opinions expressed in columns are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the newspaper. Articles are appreciated by all and all concerned.

PUBLISHER: New Community Corporation
EDITOR: Patricia A. Foley
PHOTOGRAPHER: Treia Racioppi
Send In The Clarion
c/o New Community Corporation
233 W. Market Street
Newark, New Jersey 07103
(201) 623-2800
Circulation: 12,000

Job Hunting Got You Down?

Finding a job doesn't have to be a lonely experience. Last year, we helped over 1,000 men and women find employment. People just like you who want to bring home a paycheck and add value to their lives.

With personal counseling we increase your chances of getting a job by:

- Finding the right job opening for you.
- Making appointments with specific employers.
- Giving you letters of introduction and directions.
- Helping you put your best foot forward.

You have a friend in New Community Employment Center. Call us today for an appointment.



NEW COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT CENTER

265 Morris Ave.
Newark, N.J. 07103
(201) 733-4930

Need Medical Transportation

Call

623-2480



ism
Old
nored
n

ference
ed Bishop
rence in
for his
brothers
Bishop's

reating
used on
come a
written
against



ncis Jr.
a more
some of
ity also
with a
house in
led the

ong way
is truly
Bishop
pastoral
church."

Party
bration
success.
ite dish
We had
oy and
fe danc-
e D.J.
e were
read as

ay"
ctor Jay
al nice

y New
ry Bell

car

A Look At The Future For Some Harmony House Families

Ms. Rhonda Banks is a 25 year old mother of two children age 6 years and 19 months. She was forced to live in a hotel for homeless with her small family for five months before moving into her Harmony House apartment in December. Life was not very bright.

Now there is a future and plans are being made. Rhonda is looking for a job and will take part in the GED program for a high school equivalency diploma. She will also be looking for low-income housing. Her feeling is



Father Linder blesses the tree at Harmony House.

that low-income housing is the answer to her problem because of the high cost of living in the area and high rents. Even welfare assistance will not pay for market rate rents. Without low-income housing her family will be forced to live in the street.

Rhonda plans to enroll in the classes and workshops Harmony House offers to better herself. The after-school and Babyland programs will also be a great help to her and her children.

Rhonda feels her family will have more cohesiveness. "I have been in and out of a lot of programs but I feel Harmony House will help me in reaching my goal," she said.

Ms. Julie Gonzalez is 19 and the mother of two children aged 9 months

and 22 months. She had been living in a private house before coming to Harmony House. The primary tenant was a relative, who moved out owing two months rent.

After three months the landlord asked for full payment from Ms. Gonzalez and when she couldn't pay she was told to move. She then found herself at Saint Rocco's shelter.

She looked all over for an apartment for her little family but the one she finally found was asking such a high rent she could not possibly afford it.

What Julie wants to accomplish while at Harmony House is to set herself on a career track to financial independence. She will look at word processing, LPN or auto mechanics.



Gwendy Long and Father Wm. Linder lead a tour of the Harmony House facility on opening day.

Newark Mayor Sharpe James hands out gifts to the children at Harmony House.

She is willing to try a variety of possibilities to reach her goal of permanent job placement. Here at Harmony House she has the possibility of gaining the skills she needs.

"I feel Harmony House is a good start for me," she told us, "and I feel the program is going to help me and my family."

Mr. Alard Cushman has three of his five children living with him aged 18, 17 and 16 years. The 29 year old father was living in a homeless hotel in Jersey City prior to coming

to his Harmony House apartment.

A serious fire in August 1985 to the home he owned caused him to become homeless and created the disruption of his family. His house was destroyed beyond repair forcing him to move to the emergency shelter.

Mr. Cushman has an associate degree in bookkeeping and wants to return to society, to regain a permanent home and take care of his family in the manner to which he is accustomed. He has been out job hunting already and on Monday will visit



Gloria Chambers of Social Services hands Essex County Prosecutor Herbert Tate Jr. and aide NCC Says NO to Drugs bumper stickers.

Deputy Drug Czar Tours New Community...

continued from page 1

secretary Jack Kemp.

The arrest and incarceration of drug users and dealers will not solve the problem Walton feels. Alternatives which provide rehabilitation and a productive future must be sought.

Programs which aim at prevention early on and which address the whole person are an important part of that solution. In this regard Mr. Walton was taken on a two hour tour of New Community including the nursery for

infants and toddlers with HIV virus, a sad by product of drug use in many cases, as well as a Babyland Nursery for healthy children which exists for working parents enabling them to lead happy, productive, dignified lives.

The third stop was at New Community Harmony House which will allow 102 families to find the support services they need to return to the mainstream of working society through its transitional housing and counseling services.

Although both Mr. Walton and Mr. Tate agreed the drug problem would never be eliminated, they feel a society in which the streets are once again safe and people feel comfortable in their own homes is possible...but that will take time.

New Community's coordinated efforts at decent housing, education, employment counseling, day care and after-school programs will certainly reach out to many residents and plant a seed of prevention for the future.

"The only way to make an impact upon the drug problem is to generate a total community response and New Community has a great deal of experience in developing community response," stated Monsignor Linder. "Having Judge Walton visit us is good moral support and very much appreciated."



Msgr. Linder shows Deputy Drug Czar Walton around New Community.



Gloria Chambers of Social Services hands Essex County Prosecutor Herbert Tate Jr. and aide NCC Says NO to Drugs bumper stickers.

**Make A Date With Your Valentine
Young Couples Retreat**

St. Rose of Lima Parish is sponsoring a one day retreat for couples who have been together 10 years or less.

All New Community, Babyland, and St. Rose Parish members are most welcome.

Make plans now to celebrate Valentine's Day on Saturday, February 10, with your Valentine and God on Caldwell College's beautiful campus.

For more information or reservations call Debbie at 623-6114 or Marly at 481-7581.

Tau Gamma Delta Sorority, Inc. Makes Donation To Extended Care

The Eta Omega chapter of the Tau Gamma Delta Sorority Inc. made a donation of Depends adult briefs to New Community Extended Care Facility on December 6, 1989.

Eleanor Smith, President, accompanied by Juanita Porter, 1st Vice-President, Mary Clowney, Secretary, Rose Jackson, Corresponding Secretary and Thelma Gordon, Assistant Secretary took time out of their busy schedules to visit the beautiful

which is concerned about or interested in long term care to visit the facility and see for themselves the quality of care that is provided. Mrs. Hamilton also added that Depends were badly needed and encouraged more donations of this nature.

Eleanor Smith told Mr. Canady that because she was so pleased with what she was seeing and hearing, Extended Care had not heard the last of what she was seeing and hearing. Ex-



Executive Director Leroy Canady and Mrs. Gloria Hamilton Director of Nursing are shown with members of Tau Gamma Delta Sorority.

facility and personally deliver their donation.

Mr. Canady, Executive Director of Extended Care and Gloria Hamilton, Director of Nursing were on hand to accept the donation and express their deep appreciation of the sorority's generosity.

During the presentation of the gift, Mary Clowney whose father Albert Godde has been a resident of Extended Care since May 1989, said "my father loves it here. After only one week in this facility, he made incredible improvements. Outside of the love and care that is provided by the staff, my father has gone on trips to the theatre and on a cruise, things he has never done in his life."

Mrs. Hamilton in accepting the donation told the group that The New Community Extended Care Facility promotes life. She invited the sorority members and any individual or group

tended Care had not heard the last of the Tau Gamma Delta Sorority. She said the group will make more donations and will work towards arranging their schedules in order to volunteer their time to help the facility in any capacity needed.

Extended Care needs more support from organizations or individuals who would like to make contributions to the care of the elderly. Anyone interested should contact:

Leroy Canady,
Executive Director
New Community Extended
Care Facility
266 South Orange Avenue
Newark, New Jersey 07103

You may also call: (201) 624-2020
Tau Gamma Delta Sorority, thank you. You indeed helped to make this holiday season brighter.

Donna Allen

New Years Comes Early At Medical Day Care

To usher in the year 1990 New Community Medical Day Care Staff held its annual Pre-New Year's celebration on December 29, 1989. The day was spent with our "Golden Age" and special clients being thankful for a good year past; and great excitement and anticipation of a greater year in 1990.



Clients are seated at table waiting for the bountiful meal.

and anticipation of a greater year in 1990.

The buffet luncheon and program began at 11:30 a.m., and the live entertainment provided was pleasing to the guests' varied musical tastes.

We would like to extend our prayers and well wishes to all for a happy, blessed and safe holiday season.

Christmas Parties Are Happy Times

The Christmas Season is one of the most festive, spiritual and emotional touching times of the year. It is for many a time of reflection on the tremendous struggle for humanity to treat their fellow man with love, respect, and consideration for life as God taught.

The New Community Medical Day

Care Program hosted its Annual Christmas Party for its "Golden Age" and Special clients on Friday, December 22nd 1989, to celebrate this holiday.

There was a delectable buffet served and live entertainment for the enjoyment of the guests.



There is excitement in the air as the Christmas party gets underway.

Festive Decorations Win Prizes

On Tuesday, December 19, 1989, the Activity Department of New Community Extended Care Facility held a Christmas decorating contest on each floor. Each floor was decorated in the spirit of the holiday season and prizes were awarded.

The contest was judged on the basis of originality and creativity. The judges were employees from Home Health Services and included Sister Ann Tumulty, Mary Crant and Marie Shilling.

The judges enjoyed visiting each floor and appreciated the time and effort the beautiful results represented. After much thought first place was captured by the third floor and second place by the fourth floor while third place was won by the second floor.

The real winners, however, are all those dedicated, warmhearted people who gave their time and talent to assure a colorful and festive holiday season.

Priscilla Francis



Cheerful halls lifted spirits during holidays.

Donny Hope Orchestra Donates Musical Treat

On Friday, December 8, 1989, the residents and staff of New Community Extended Care were treated to a musical performance by Donny Hope and his orchestra.

The band delighted the audience with its jazz-like music and was en-

joyed by all. The group provided entertainment in the spirit of the holidays.

Once again, we thank the orchestra and all those who attended to make the event a remarkable success.



Sharing their talents are the generous members of the Donny Hope Orchestra.

Notes From Babyland:

A Few Short Years That Will Last A Lifetime

To be able to talk, your child must first be able to hear. By the time Dennis was 14, his teachers were convinced that he was mentally retarded.

In fact, his "I.Q." was high but it was Dennis' language skills that made him slow in school. The reason: In Dennis' first year of life he started having middle ear infections, and the kept recurring.

It was not until age four that he saw an ear specialist. He fought the disease with several different kinds of treatment throughout the next ten years.

Half the time Dennis heard well enough to learn, but half the time he didn't. A child's first two years of life are critical ones for speech development. Even mild hearing loss during this period can seriously reduce a baby's word learning potential.

Here is a timetable for normal speech development.

• Birth to six months

Sounds cause your baby to turn eyes and head toward their location. He or she responds to your voice and enjoys name-making toys.

• Six to ten months

Your baby's name evokes a response, and common words such as "no" and "Bye-bye" seem to be understood.

• Ten to fifteen months

Simple spoken directions are



Dr. Paul
Kearney

understood and you have the thrill of hearing your child's first words.

By the Age of Two

Your child would be using ten or more single words with a vocabulary growing into phrases and simple sentences by the age of three.

But hearing loss can occur later on, too; and that may be the problem if frequently your child:

- Requests permission to turn up the T.V. or radio sound to a level higher than other family members find comfortable.
- Watches your face when you talk, asks for statements to be repeated or replies to questions with unrelated answers or seems inattentive or withdrawn for protracted periods.

If there is any question at all about your child's hearing, do not hesitate to talk to your doctor about testing. Your child's future is at stake.

Paul Kearney, M.D., F.A.A.P.
Medical Director
Babyland Nursery, Inc.

Christmas At Babyland III

The month of December found Babyland III bustling in readiness for Christmas. The beautiful tree in the foyer with all the Disney characters, topped of course with Mickey Mouse, greeted all visitors to the center. Each morning there was hot coffee or tea, as well as danish for parents as they dropped off their children. The morning and evening goodie table was compliments of our Kitchen Staff —

2nd and 3rd. Congratulations to all for their fine work and great spirit.

The week before Christmas had the board of trustees filling baskets of goodies for all the employees. In addition, local agencies and parishes were dropping off gifts so that each child would receive a gift at Christmas. Much excitement was in the air.

The highlight of the week was the



And the winner is...Cookie Monster.

a wonderful bracer for this cold December.

A classroom decorating contest prompted each caregiver to use their artistic and creative talents to the fullest. December 15th was the official voting for the decorated rooms. Competition was strong and all were anxious to hear the winners announced. Cookie Monster's Room decorated by Lenora Simmons, Mary Curtis and Rosita Vega won 1st place with Kermit's and Big Bird's Rooms placing

We at Babyland III are most grateful to all who made our Christmas season so wonderful.

Classrooms Glow At Babyland I

Babyland I engaged in a "classroom of the month" contest for the first time in November. The contest gave the caregivers a chance for recognition of the wonderful work they do in their classrooms everyday for the children in their care.

Most important is the fact that while the children receive the excellent care they do at Babyland I, their parents are free to continue their education or work, so they may lead lives filled with self-determination without worry. The caregivers all deserve commendation for their hard work and dedication to the "Babies of Babyland I."

Congratulations are in order for the dual winners of "Smurfette's" room and "Headstart" room.

Dionne Ledford



Smurfette's Room



Head Start Room glows with pride.

A Time For Giving

The children and their families at all of the Babyland's experienced the overflowing generosity of so many different groups of people during the Christmas season.

The selfless giving of toys, clothes, towels, alarm clocks, date books, sheets, food and financial assistance came from a variety of places.

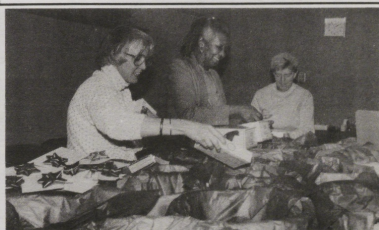
Sacred Heart Parish in Lyndhurst donated gifts for all the children and their families in the teen program and Babyland IV. The Junior League of Montclair/Newark provided each child at Babyland IV with Christmas stockings filled with goodies and beautiful new outfits. Also, the Junior League was very generous in giving gifts to all our parents at Babyland IV. The Newark Fire Department collected gifts at the Broad St. Bank for the children at Babyland I, II, III, IV, St. Philomina's Parish in Livingston sent stuffed animals for all the children. There are far too many people to mention everyone by name however on behalf of the children and their families I wish to extend their heartfelt



Parishioners from Blessed Sacrament in Franklin Lakes shown with toys they brought to New Community.

gratitude for making the spirit of Christmas come alive for all of God's beautiful children.

May each of you experience the peace of Jesus in the New Year knowing that you have brightened the hearts of many people. May God bless you for your generosity towards all the children at Babyland Nursery.



Board of directors filling baskets for employees.

Milestones Of 1989 At



989 At New Community



= Security Corner =

Officer Of The Month

Security Officer Robert Williams, has been selected as Officer of the Month for December, 1989.

Officer Williams joined the NCC Security Force shortly after graduating from West Side High School in Newark, because he thought it would afford him the opportunity to develop skills and experience that would prepare him for a career in law enforcement.

Robert is the son of Security Officer Wanda Williams, a dispatcher who was the recipient of the Director's Award during N.C.C. Security's Sixth Annual Awards Ceremony that was held in May, 1989.

Since joining the Security department, Officer Williams has been one of our most outstanding officers, commented Assistant Director Errol Adams. He has worked almost every assignment in Security, including Acting Sergeant. In his performance he exercised good judgment beyond a man of his relative youth. He is held in high regard by his fellow officers. Officer Williams was presented with a plaque from the Katina Uniform Company of Newark who is co-sponsor of the award with NCC Security Department.

The entire Security Department congratulates Security Officer Williams on his achievement.



Asst. Director Errol Adams presents Robert Williams with his award as his proud mother Wanda looks on.

Black History Notes

— Researched by James E. DuBoise —

Civil War (1861-1865)

The Black Man's Heroic Role In Both The Union And Confederate Armies

The recent New York movie premiere of "GLORY," an inspiring tale of the famed all black 54th Massachusetts Regiment of the Civil War, brings to mind the following historical facts.

When the war began in 1861, most people were in agreement that slavery was not the primary issue; restoration of the Union was the principal concern. Abolition was not a popular cause in the North, but Northern Commanders knew the price being paid for not addressing the issue. They saw confederate states in June, 1861, such as the state of Tennessee begin to recruit blacks between the ages of 18 and 50. South Carolina did the same in 1862. In a review of 28,000 Confederate troops held at New Orleans on November 23, 1861, seven months after the outbreak of the war there was one regiment of 1400 free blacks. One such black, Preston Roberts, was unofficial quartermaster of Confederate General Nathaniel Forrest. He was given the Cross of Honor, the highest Confederate medal, and until his death in 1910 was treated with all respects like a white man in the south.

It took William Lloyd Garrison and a pamphlet to prove to Lincoln and others that 5000 blacks had fought in the American Revolution. By mid 1862, new calls for volunteers were meeting with limited success. As a result, the 54th Massachusetts Infantry was born and Frederick Douglass appeared "Men of Color, to Arms," a new war objective had also been established — abolition.

There were inequities. Black privates were paid only \$10.00 per month while white privates were paid \$13.00. In addition, whites received an extra \$3.50 per month for clothing while \$3.00 was deducted from black soldiers pay for clothing. At least 180,000 black soldiers fought in the Union Army between 1861-1865. There were 161 black regiments as follows: 141 infantry; 7 cavalry; 12 heavy artillery; and 1 light artillery. In addition another 200,000 blacks served in service units as teamsters, laborers, dock workers, etc. Of a total Naval enlisted strength of 118,000, 30,000 were black.

As the Civil War finished 35% of all blacks had served in combat. Over 37,000 black soldiers had died at wars end and 23 blacks were awarded the Medal of Honor.

Abraham Lincoln stated four times that without the Negro it would be "impossible" for the North to have won. This statement is all the more striking since Lincoln in response to popular prejudice steadfastly refused to employ black troops through the South.

Robert Gould Shaw, the slave abolitionist and the beloved leader of the Massachusetts 54th Infantry revered his black troops stating they were "Men whose poetry is not yet written."

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 15, 1990

Whatever Gets Your Attention

'Attention' is the act or state of heeding to and applying the mind to an object of sense or thought, — a condition of readiness involving selective narrowing or focusing of consciousness and receptivity, while 'to get' is to gain possession of something or someone. Proverbs 23:17 instruct us that, "as a man thinketh in his heart so is he," and strongly implies that thoughts are powerful forces which tend to dominate and determine the real quality of our lives, and generally determine our actions as well.

It was Ralph Waldo Emerson, the American poet and popular philosopher, who said that, "the ancestor of every action is a thought." So, it is important and incumbent upon us to cultivate the best thoughts, for as Proverbs 4:26 directs, "keep your mind with all vigilance for out of it springs the issues of life."

There is a branch of medical science dealing with the interrelationships between the mind and the body which suggests that the mind with its thoughts react on our entire being, body and soul. Some thoughts have been known to make people ill, while spiritual thought accompanied by faith have been known to contribute to physical and mental recovery.

Many ailments that people suffer are induced by thoughts, and their solution lies not so much in the administration of the media as it does on the involvement of the religious spirit. To get relief from harmful thoughts, such must be replaced with good, moral, and uplifting thoughts. Ephesians 6:23 expressed it thus, "be renewed in the spirit of your mind."

as the foundation of a man's life may be found, in the depths of his thought-life. 'Transform' means to change into another substance, while 'renew' means to make new — to become new — to become new spiritually. Paul was right when in Romans 12:2 he advocated, "be transformed by renewing of your mind."

Philippians 4:8 helps us in that regard by counseling us, "whatever things are true... honest... just... pure... lovely... of good report... think on these things." In other words, focus your attention on God, "have the mind of Christ," (1 Corinthians 2:6).

Much of the trouble people experience today is due to the concern they have for mundane things and pleasures sought for their self-aggrandizement to the neglect of spiritual and moral values. Where does get the attention of people, does eventually get them — possesses them. Where illicit permissive sex gets the attention of the libertine, permissive sex gets him, controls his life and often ruins it and that of others.

Charles Dickens in his Christmas Carol said, "we form the chains we bear," and we do, by our habits, our persistent concerns, what we constantly think about and dwell on, what we constantly give our attention to. What you give your attention to can enslave you or uplift you.

Whatever gets your attention, gets you.

Lewis Graves
Springfield Branch
Newark Public Library

New Community Home Health Care

Currently providing services in the home to over 160 clients and families throughout Newark and East Orange.

• MEDICAID and H.C.E.P. (Home Care Extension Program) Provider of Personal Care Services and Basic Services and a C.C.P.E.D. (Community Care Project For The Elderly and Disabled) Provider of Homemaking Services.

• PRIVATE Provider of in-home skilled nursing services and personal care services.

Referrals are welcomed from:

• Individuals themselves who are in need of services • Family Members • Friends • Health Care Professionals • Human Service Professionals • Building Managers • Clergy

Call: (201) 733-2121

A nurse will visit at your convenience to evaluate your needs, explain our services and answer any questions you may have. So Stable Support.

NEWSFROM... New Community FCU

223 West Market Street • Newark, New Jersey 07103 • (201) 623-2800

SAVING... is not for everyone

Saving isn't for everyone. Don't save it:

- You'll never need to replace the car you're driving now.
- You plan to work until the day you die.
- You have a wealthy relative who's promised to leave you everything.
- You are never going on vacation.
- Your children are never attending technical school or college.
- Your house is totally maintenance-free.
- Your household appliances are going to run forever.
- You have complete and unlimited medical coverage and a no-deductible auto insurance policy that is non-cancelable.
- You have everything your heart desires.

No, saving is not for everyone. But if you want to save anyway, see us at New Community Federal Credit Union. You'll earn good dividends, and your money will be fully insured up to \$100,000 by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA).

For more information, call or come into New Community Federal Credit Union.

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY thru FRIDAY 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
or by appointment after 5:00 pm
by calling 623-2800.

NCUA

ntion

an's life may
this life thought-
to change in-
while 'renew'
become new
tually. Paul
ians 12:2 he
ved by renew-

us in that
telling us,
rue...honest...

g good
things,"
attention on
of Christ,"

s people ex-
t the concern
e things and
their self-
neglect of
lues. Where
e people, do
e...possesses
e...positive sex
e libertine,
e, controls his
and that of

is Christmas
he chains we
r habits, our
hat we con-
d dwell on,
hat we con-
d dwell on,
our attention
attention to
tion, gets

ewis Graves
field Branch
ible Library

are
and families

Provider
Communi-
memaking

d personal

ids • Health
tery

services and

y FCU

323-2800

ie outo

at New
struction

Union.

Employees Honored By Division On Aging

On November 29, 1989 four New Community employees were among the honorees at a continental breakfast sponsored by the Essex Division on Aging.

The breakfast which was held in the conference room at St. Joseph's Plaza, was to acknowledge co-ordinators and supervisors who have

been in the Home Friends Program since it started in 1984.

Elsie Best, coordinator, supervisors Zenobia De Vore, Annette Green and Gwendolyn Walston of New Community Friends graciously accepted the five year certificate presented by Gerri Laver, In-Home coordinator of Essex County Division on Aging.



Elsie Best and co-workers are proud of their five years of service.

A Weekend To Grow In Love

One day at church Marley Lara asked Magr. Linder if he knew where she and her husband could go to make a retreat for couples. Very quickly she found herself on a committee to plan one, along with her husband Luis, Debbie and Jim Rohman, and Sister Mary Ellen.

We have planned what promises to be a wonderful experience for couples in the New Community/Babyland/St. Rose of Lima Parish Network who have been together ten years or less.

We invite you to set one day aside to concentrate on growing in love for God and one another, and celebrating all the good things we have in common.

Please join us in celebrating Valentine's Day early this year, on February 10, in a beautiful setting on the campus of Caldwell College. Fr. James Turro of Seton Hall University's Department of Scripture Studies will

be there to guide our prayer and reflection on Scripture.

All of the committee members are most eager to sign you up. Just ask one of us, or call Marley at 481-7581 or Debbie at 623-6114 for more information or reservations.

Be our Valentine!

Sr. Mary Ellen

Marley and Luis Lara with Debbie and Jim Rohman, chairperson of the Young Couples Retreat.

So Many Wonderful People Make Christmas Bright

The N.C. Social Services Department was able to spread plenty of happiness and good cheer this Christmas with a lot of help from our friends.

It is a privilege to be on hand year after year to witness our people's goodness and generosity as many of the same individuals, parishes and organizations come through with wonderful gifts for tenants in seniors and families housing, and some new benefactors are added to our list. It is even better to see the joy on the faces of the recipients.

We wish to thank the Congregation of Bethany Baptist Church on West Market Street for providing 20 food baskets for families, through a recommendation from Marie Stallings of the N.C. Home Health Care Program. The Essex County Division on Aging provided holiday meals for home-bound seniors, with help from Orange Hospital.

Catholic Parishes which sent beautiful gifts to our people were Blessed Sacrament in Franklin Lakes, St. Anne in Garwood, Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament in Roseland, St. Thomas the Apostle in Bloomfield, Our Lady of the Lake in Verona, and Our Lady of the Valley in Orange.

Many of our friends demonstrate that it is never too early to begin help-

ing others. Grade school children at Blessed Sacrament in Franklin Lakes shared their toys. The C.Y.O. of St. Anne Parish in Garwood made dozens and dozens of cookies for Seniors, and all the way from Connecticut, the Greenwich High School Service Club, moderated by Jane Carlin, provided gifts for every tenant at N.C. Douglas. Ms. Carlin delivered her gift herself, long before Santa Claus started on his 1989 World Tour.

To their credit, the Student Council of Bergen Catholic Boys High School in Oradell organized a very ambitious clothing drive and Vinnie McMahon spear headed a collection of clothes and toys at Queen of Peace High School in North Arlington. Ray Cadey of the New Community Development Department pointed the latter group in our direction.

Patrik Richards, former employee of NCC, and Danny Cardozo, Director of Resource Development of the Archdiocese of Newark, were instrumental in getting their organizations to "Gifts for the New Community Tenants" baragran.

We are deeply grateful to all the kind people who remembered our tenants this Christmas. Hearts were higher around here this holiday season because of you. May you be rewarded for your goodness and blessed throughout the New Year.

A Regal Update

What happened to the NCC Older American Kings and Queens? The first couple, Reverend Lauevia Green and Mr. Ephimethus Shambley both of NC Roseville are still active in their serving of caring and sharing. Rev. Green has started taking on Fun Day for the residents in Roseville. Every Wednesday Rev. Green goes to the community room to prepare hot dogs, fish, and other foods for the Fun Day events so that more tenants will come out and enjoy each other and play such games as Pokeno. Mr. Shambley is dedicated to his wife Pearl and always makes sure she has the best of care. He can always be seen taking her for walks, going shopping and being her best "friend." These two were the King and Queen for 1987, the first ones who started the annual event of selecting persons who are worthy to represent NCC as model seniors.

Our couple for 1988 is Mrs. Ora Waters of NC Manor and Mr. Arthur Lipscomb, of NC Associates who assumed the role as king when Mr. Alan Jackson resigned from the position due to illness which made it impossible for him to fulfill his role. Mrs. Ora Waters was recently honored at a Banquet of Recognition for service to the Order in Pride, of Trenton Temple #774 of the Elks. Mrs. Waters has served as State Directress of the Reserve Fund for the past 8 years. Mrs. Waters is always willing to give a hand at any function which Manor is having and can be found in the kitchen, making pies, or serving. Mr. Arthur Lipscomb, "King Arthur," is an all around helper. His favorite phrase is, "Can I help you?" and another is "I'll do it." It is this kind of dedication to help others that makes him such a well liked person at NC Associates and all other buildings. It is a rare person at NC Associates and all the other buildings. It is a rare occasion to see Mr. Lipscomb not in a cheerful mood.

In September he attended a meeting at St. Joseph Plaza and spoke out on a few key issues concerning seniors. He presented some helpful solutions to the existing problems of seniors who have health conditions and need 24 hour access to medical help or some type of medical alert system.

In 1989 our Third Pageant was held and produced a new Queen, Mrs. Phillis Burton of NC Associates and Mr. Arthur Lipscomb as King once more. Mrs. Burton is an active member on the hostess committee at NC Associates and is always there to see that things go well. Mrs. Burton usually finds time to escort her friend Mrs. Lola Grady on various shopping trips or theatre trips and assists Mrs. Grady with purchases, as Mrs. Grady is confined to a wheelchair.

Our Kings and Queens have been quite busy all year in sharing their gift of life with others and their commitment is that they do those things from the heart; there is never a second thought when anyone asks for their help. Usually the help is offered before it is asked.

In September there was a gathering of all the Kings and Queens in Essex sponsored by Mrs. Kitty Taylor in conjunction with the annual Family Day event held at Weequahic Park in Newark. Rev. Green, Mrs. Burton and Mr. Lipscomb were on hand to represent NCC.

The Kings and Queens attended a regal Christmas affair on their behalf December 26th at the Quality Inn, Newark. This was a lovely affair which congratulated the Kings and Queens on their service to their community and honored them with a luncheon and trophies.

NCC's Fourth Annual King and Queen Pageant is approaching and the search goes on to see who will be crowned the new King and Queen for 1990.

Joyce Cook

The Priory Restaurant

Heavenly Dining
In An Old World Atmosphere



at ST. JOSEPH PLAZA
233 West Market Street
Newark, NJ 201-242-8012

American
and Continental Cuisine
Secluded
And Southern Regional
Specialties

LUNCHEON SERVICE

Weekdays

11:30 a.m. until 3 p.m.

DINNER SERVED

Mondays through Thursdays

5:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Fridays and Saturdays

5:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m.



NEW YEAR'S SPECIAL!!!
1 Year Of Health And Fitness
For Only \$9900

HEALTH

New Beginning Spa & Wellness Center, Newark's most luxurious exercise spa, located at St. Joseph Plaza, is a complete facility designed to satisfy your body and soul. The spa is equipped with the latest state-of-the-art exercise equipment, outdoor, indoor and provides frequent aerobic and calisthenic exercises, a fully competent, professional, and courteous staff.

CALL TODAY!



NEW BEGINNINGS SPA

233 W. MARKET ST.

NEWARK, NJ

(201) 624-7373

At Your (Social) Service

by the Staff of NCC Social Services Department

Happiness Travels Around

Santa Claus wasn't the only visitor from the North who made a lot of people happy last Christmas. As soon as Loretta arrived from Mariandale, Ossining, NY, everyone fell in love with her. Loretta is quite a traveler for such a little person. She was made at a women's co-op in Kentucky where the Dominican Sisters of the

road at times, to broaden the exposure of little people like Loretta, and to be able to send more money to the needy Kentucky women.

Sr. Ann Tumulty, a Dominican Sister of the Sick Poor who works in N.C. Home Health Care decided to bring Loretta to Newark with her, to raffle her off at work. Loretta enjoyed going on rounds with Sr. Ann, but it was the lonely of themselves that Sr. Ann left her all by herself at the convent.

Things began to change when people began ordering dolls, as well as taking chances on Loretta. One day, several meticulously dressed companions arrived to keep Loretta company, later, it was celebrity time! Not one, but two Michael Jacksons joined the company, complete with one white lace glove each. Along came bare-chested Mr. T, sporting purple feather earrings. Pretty soon the whole back of the convent living room couch was filled with dolls. They has a rollicking good time once they had the house to themselves after the sisters left in the morning for work, or went to bed at night.

Eventually all good things must end. During the week before Christmas, one doll after another was delivered to its eager new family. Jean Miller-Curlin of NC Social Services, winner of the raffle, is proud of the two grandchildren living at her house: a real little grandson Glen, and a beautiful granddaughter, Loretta.



Dressed and ready to travel.

Sick Poor minister. Along with other dolls her size — girls and boys, black and white — gorgeous quilted placemats, unbreakable plastic quilts and many other unique hand-crafted delights, she was sent to the Mariandale Conference Center where the sisters have opened an Appalachian Craft Shop to make these items available in this area, and to give the women in Kentucky an income-producing outlet for their wares.

Sr. Fidelis, who presides over this venture, even takes her show on the

Saying No To Drugs Is Taught Many Ways

"Just say no" are words much heard have been heard around New Community many times. Saying no to drugs is something that we are trying to teach the children to do and feel comfortable doing.

One way is through the use of the game "Just Say No" from Lifegames, Inc. Everyone wanted to be the first one to play this game when it arrived at Bruce Street. Still today there is eagerness to play.

Mrs. Harper, a VISTA volunteer, has played and has been teaching the children to play this game. She says that "the questions on the card are

good, and are challenging." Jean Ackridge was one of the first to play the game. She said that she enjoyed playing especially when she earned keys.

There are real challenges and decisions to make in playing this game. Do you choose the path that is the 'swamp of excuses' or that of the 'web of lies'. Whichever way you take, everyone wants to have the golden key that unlocks the castle. The first to do this is the winner.

Playing the game we hope will help the children make anti-drug choices in the reality of their lives.

After School Children Give Thanks

Thanksgiving always falls on the fourth Thursday in November. At New Community it was celebrated early. The after school program gathered together to celebrate this traditional holiday on November 22nd. Some guests also joined in such as S. Anastasia, S. Rosemary, and Gwendy Long.

Between the VISTA volunteers and the Youth Department staff there was enough delicious food for

everyone. Before eating though, the purpose for such a gathering was recalled. A Thanksgiving prayer was said and then the feasting began.

There was feasting on Mrs. Brown's famous turkey stuffing, Mrs. Harper's macaroni and cheese, Mrs. Padilla's candied yams, Mrs. Martin's baked beans...no need to go. There was plenty and everyone enjoyed themselves.



There must be food somewhere.

Senior Activity Calendar

- JAN. 1 Holiday Happy New Year
- JAN. 8 Spa Day - Workout class, Sauna only \$1.00. Trans. provided -
- JAN. 9 Senior Advisory Council 11:30 a.m. at NC Associates
- JAN. 10 Food Stamp Rep. at NC Associates 10:00 a.m.
- JAN. 11 Lung Screening at NC Associates 10:00 a.m. Free Screening
- JAN. 12 Annual MLK, Jr. Scholarship Fund Dinner held at NC Gardens, donation \$5.00 - time 5:30 p.m. Trans. is provided.
- JAN. 15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday, 6:00 p.m. Prayer Service will be held at NC Gardens in honor of MLK, Jr.
- JAN. 17 Van trip to Pancake House on Route 22 - 5:00 p.m. Trans. al. provided.
- JAN. 26 Van trip to the Shomberg Museum in NY. Trip \$3.00 Time 9:30 a.m.
- JAN. 29 Brown Bag Day
- JAN. 22 Bus trip to Atlantic city to the TRUMP. Tickets are \$8.50 which includes Trans., \$9.95 luncheon, \$5.00 round voucher. Breakfast snack served on bus, and free ticket for

prize drawing on bus. Depart time 8:00 a.m. from 545 Orange St. and 8:15 from 51 Somerset St. Payment due by Jan. 8th. Seats are limited. Hurry!

Coming Up!

• For ceramic lovers please note the new change in meeting times. Starting Jan. 8th new class times will be every Tuesday at NC Manor at 3:30 to 5:45 p.m. and Every Thursday at NC Associates 3:30 to 5:45 p.m. Please plan to attend one of the classes and learn to make gift items for your friends and home items for yourself.

• Theatre Lovers Club will be starting new memberships for 1990. To join for the new year, fee will be \$80.00, which will allow you to see at least three plays and one lunch or dinner performance. Past members have seen such greats as "Black and Blue", "Chorus Line", "42nd Street", "With A Song In My Heart and more. All with excellent seating and transportation. First payment of \$20.00 is due Jan. 8th.

• There will be a Valentine party at NC Manor which will feature entertainment by the Lifesky Theatre Group, on Feb. 14th from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. Donation is \$2.00 for lunch and prize drawing and performance.

For more information concerning all trips and events please contact Ms. Joyce Cook at (201) 623-6299 or 6114.

Fraternity Members Donate Gifts

Christmas came a little early to the youth from the After School Program. The Bruce Street site celebrated together on December 21.

After enjoying a meal, each child was given a gift. The IOTA PHI THETA Fraternity, Inc., PHI OMEGA Graduate Chapter members came as guests to our Christmas Dinner Party. They came bearing gifts. Ted Stephens, Michael Jordan, Guy Packwood, and Andy Carter were some of the fraternity members who joined us. They spent time with each child before having the children choose a gift for themselves. A great big thank you to them for all they did for the children.

A thank you also goes out to the Marines and Toys for Tots, the Social Services Department and Youth Department, along with the Vista Volunteers.

The winner of the giant stuffed stocking was James Matos, a student of the After School Program.

Books On St. Nicholas' Gift List

'Twas the night before St. Nicholas' feast day and all through the after-school program anticipation was high to see what would appear before their eyes. With the legend of St. Nicholas shared at dinner on December 5th, the children awaited what would be left by him.

To their surprise the next afternoon, there was a note, a bag and three boxes.

The note was to the children from St. Nicholas. The bag was his treat to them of candy and stickers. The boxes to everyone's delight, were filled with books from RIF. The first distribution for the school year had arrived.

As each child took their books, they settled down quickly and quietly and a new adventure in their reading experience began to fill their lives.

Sr. Connie Kelly



So many gifts to choose from.

Poster Contest Winner Honored

On December 6, 1989, Taneshah Hudson from the After School Program, was invited to Newark's City Hall. The invitation was extended in recognition of winning The Newark Day Poster Contest. Taneshah, who captured 3rd place was recognized with the other winning individuals during the Municipal Council Session.

We, here at the Bruce Street site are very proud of her. Congratulations.

Sr. Connie Kelly

December Student Of The Month

Alicia Latham is December's student of the month. Alicia is 11 years old and attends United Academy in Newark. This is her first year at the After-School Program.

Since the day she started Alicia has put forth great effort in her work. As anyone can tell from her report card it has paid off.

Alicia has a great interest in social studies as well as math and reading. She enjoys making sock puppets and cooking. We are glad that Alicia has joined us this year. Set up the good work! Congratulations.

Holiday Cheer Abundant Among New Community Seniors

dar

ing on bus.
\$80 a.m. from
St. and 8:15
erast St. Pay-
jan. 8th.
sided. Hurry!

pl
house note the
7 times. Star-
times will be
Manor at 3:30
Thursday at
to 5:45 p.m.
t one of the
like gift items
more items for

b will be star-
for 1990. To
fee will be
to you to see at
one lunch or
ast members
e Black and
42nd Street,
urt and more.
teating and
payment of

stine party at
ature enter-
ory Theatre
om 12:00 to
:00 for lunch
performance.
concerning
e contact Ms.
3299 or 6114.

Gifts

ose from.
er Honored
v, Tanesah
School Pro-
ark's City
extended in
The Newark
teshah, who
recognized
individuals
al Council

Street site
of her.

onnie Kelly

The Month
ember's stu-
t is 11 years
Academy in
year at the

d Alicia has
ar work. As
report card

est in social
and reading.
puppets and
t Alicia has
up the good

There was no one who could have said that there was nothing going on in December. The month was ushered in with the annual NCC Social Services tradition of the lighting of the Christmas tree which is located at the corner of Jones Street and South Orange Avenue, in front of NC Commons Seniors.

The lighting of the tree is almost



Joyce and Andrea Cook.

like a sign that it is time to get celebrating plans finalized to light the way of HBS coming. The junior choir from St. Rose of Lima Church came out on that blustery night and a few of the hearty seniors stood outside and sang jubilant Christmas carols which were followed by welcome hot chocolate and cookies served in the community room.

December 2 showed more signs of giving, for at NC Commons Seniors, 285 Morris Avenue there was a free vegetarian luncheon which was prepared and served by a group of Indians who find great joy in sharing. The luncheon was open to anyone who wanted to come and enjoy a delicious meal.

This group always extends their invitation to include the homeless people in the area as well as residents of the building. Up the road at NC

Gardens the residents were settling down to some home-cooked dinners prepared by volunteers in the building.

The Newark Public Library held a special Senior Day which was a slide presentation and tour depicting the changes of Newark through the ages and also the renovations which the library has undergone. It was well attended by many of Newark's senior groups and of course NCC's seniors were right there. It was quite interesting to those who attended because they could relate to so many of the changes; it reminded them how far things have come.

Another tradition at NCC took place on Friday December 8th as the annual blessing of the Christmas Crib took place. This event marks the second stage of preparation of the coming of Christ. It was another cold night and a small group of carolers joined the St. Rose choir on the mound in front of NC Manor Senior, at 545 Orange Street while a large number watched from their windows, as Father Fabio blessed the crib. The joyous feeling spilled over into the community room where they were greeted with hot vegetable soup, hot chocolate and cookies. The holiday was growing more intense with each passing day.

Giving comes in all forms. On December 14th the seniors who were present at the Focal Point meeting held at NC Commons received the gift of information. There were speakers from the census bureau, Social Security and PSE&G. Mr. Jethro James of PSE&G told the seniors about Hypothermia, a serious condition of overexposure to the cold, and what they could do to prevent this from happening.

In the spirit of giving Mr. James presented all with hand knitted hats, which when worn will conserve 60% of your body heat. These hats were knitted by volunteers of Retired Seniors Volunteer Program who are also seniors, and the yarn was donated by PSE&G. For many this proved to be a wonderful gift for these

was a lot of helpful information learned from all the speakers and the hats were just what some needed.

The Senior Advisory Council held its monthly meeting on December 12th at NC Associates and after carrying out business and making plans for future meetings, they indulged in a serious game of "Christmas Pirate," which was part of their Holiday celebration. The game was quite lively and kept everyone on their guard and laughing. Mrs. Bertha Whitley had brought some delicious ice cream to share with the group and Rev. Green made some finger-licking good sweet potatoe pies. Everyone contributed good cheer and well wishes.



Live hands played.



Children from St. Rose enjoy hot chocolate.

There was certainly a lot happening on December 15th. The day started with a van load of shoppers bound for the Newport Mall located near the Holland Tunnel in Jersey City. There they spent four spellbinding hours taking in the beauty of the mall and picked up on some favorably priced holiday gift items. Those who did not go shopping were busy primping in preparation for the annual Christmas party given by the Division on Aging at the Town and Campus Restaurant in West Orange, New Jersey. This is always a festive affair and many look forward to attending. Later that same evening there was the Christmas celebration at NC Gardens where all the residents came together to share and spread good cheer among neighbors and friends.

If you missed the first shopping van there was another on December 20th that was headed for the Livingston Mall, a more familiar shopping spot which greeted our seniors with festive lined shops and excellent gift giving ideas at affordable prices.

The Holidays would not be complete without some uplifting and spirited singing and dancing. Our seniors enjoyed both, there was Holiday singing provided by the Newark Apprentice Group of the Boys Chorus, which is located at 1016 Broad Street. The 36 young men ranging in age from 7 to 12 were led by their director Mr. William Peek in two presentations, one at NC Commons on December

12th and the other at NC Manor on December 18th. Their voices were truly a gift from heaven as they delighted both audiences with their angelic voices. It was a special treat for Mrs. Rosetta Cumbo of NC Manor to have her grand-nephew, Abdul Harrison, age 11 and a first year member of the Boys Chorus singing for her and her friends.

For an uplifting beat and tunes to move the dancing feet there was entertainment provided by the Newark Department of Recreation and Cultural Affairs. The Lee Ausley Trio and Mr. Chink Wing were on hand to perform for several of the Senior buildings and got a lot of feet to tapping and helped make those who were having Christmas celebrations a little more festive.

The Golden Age Club, under the direction of Mr. Henry L. DeGroot, also had a Christmas celebration on December 21st and had a great band playing special memory lane tunes for them as they feasted on a wonderful meal and enjoyed each others company.

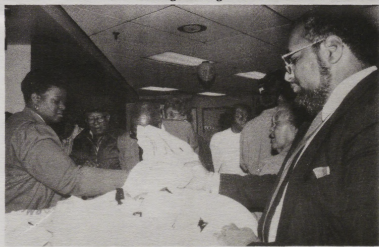
Wow! Do you think there was enough going on? Let's continue this feeling of unity, friendship, sharing and caring and let it be our New Year's resolution to start a new decade of Peace and goodwill in the hearts of all men.

Happy New Year Each and Every One!

Joyce Cook
Social Services



Golden Age Club gathered.



PSE&G hats were welcome gifts.



Ellen Watson enjoys Christmas Pirate game.

New Community Celebrates Christmas

